

Message Text

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ORIGIN TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 SS-15 NSC-05 CPR-01 SY-05

USSS-00 /044 R

DRAFTED BY TREASURY:JNEWMAN:CJR

APPROVED BY EB/CSB:JWBILLER

NEA/IAI:WCLUVERIUS

EB/CSB/OSB:ADBRAMANTE

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P 282204Z JAN 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, (SIMON, WILLIAM)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY SIMON'S VISIT TO ISRAEL

REF: TEL AVIV 687

1. FOLLOWING IS INFORMATION ON SOME OF QUESTIONS RAISED
REFTEL. SECRETARY DOES NOT WISH TO SPEND EVENING FEB. 28
IN EILAT BUT PLANS TO GO DIRECTLY TO JERUSALEM HILTON
FROM BEN GURION THAT EVENING AND SPEND NIGHT THERE.
IT IS POSSIBLE SECRETARY AND PARTY MAY DECIDE TO SPEND
SUNDAY MORNING AND EARLY AFTERNOON IN EILAT OR ARRANGE
FOR ALTERNATE PROGRAM BUT WOULD PREFER TO L'AVE THIS
OPEN FOR NOW AND PROVIDE YOU DEFINITIVE INDICATION AT
EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME. WE ASSUME THAT DIRECT FLIGHTS
FROM JERUSALEM AIRPORT TO EILAT NOT FEASIBLE BECAUSE THIS
WOULD INVOLVE USE OF AIRPORT IN OCCUPIED TERRITORY.

2. RE PARA 3 REFTEL, SECRETARY DOES NOT WISH ELEFANT

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CEREMONY TO INVOLVE CONTROVERSY SUCH AS MIGHT RESULT FROM

HOLDING IT IN BORDER AREA BETWEEN JERUSALEM AND WEST BANK. WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY SUGGESTIONS AS TO ALTERNATIVE CONVENIENT LOCUS IN JERUSALEM, INCLUDING VIEWS ON FEASIBILITY OF HAVING INFORMAL CEREMONY IN JERUSALEM HILTON.

3. RE PARA 4, SECRETARY WILL HOST DINNER EVENING MARCH 1 WHICH COULD BE HELD AT JERUSALEM HILTON OR, IF EMBASSY RECOMMENDS, ANOTHER LOCATION. WE CONTEMPLATE GUESTS WOULD INCLUDE EQUAL NUMBER OF AMERICAN AND ISRAELI OFFICIALS FOR APPROXIMATE TOTAL OF 55 TO 60.

4. NO NEWSMEN WILL ACCOMPANY.

5. MRS. SIMON WILL ACCOMPANY SECRETARY. NO OTHER MEMBERS OF FAMILY WILL BE ON TRIP. REQUEST EMBASSY DEVELOP WITH ISRAELIS POSSIBLE PROGRAM WHICH MRS. SIMON CAN CONSIDER.

6. WE HAVE NOT YET DECIDED WHETHER FORMAL NEWS CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD, BUT WOULD ASSUME PRESS WOULD BE PRESENT AT SIGNING CEREMONY ON MARCH 1 NOTED REFTEL.

7. LIST OF ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS AND FISCAL DATA FOLLOWS SEPTEL. OFFICIAL PARTY AND THEIR SCHEDULES WILL ALSO FOLLOW SEPTEL. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE021435
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JNEWMAN:CJR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760033-0096
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760112/aaaaakgj.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN TRSE
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 TEL AVIV 687
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <25 JUN 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY SIMON'S VISIT TO ISRAEL
TAGS: OVIP, (SIMON, WILLIAM)
To: TEL AVIV
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006